CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS CODE: 4123 **TITLE**: FINGERPRINT SPECIALIST III **GRADE:** S-19

DEFINITION:
Under supervision, works high-profile cases that involve capital crimes and the likelihood of Court testimony to identify persons through the evaluation, comparison, and identification of complex latent fingerprints and palm prints using both manual and automated fingerprint identification technology, and establishes positive identity through the comparison of ten-print fingerprint records to identify criminal offenders in support of the Police Department's mission; may serve as lead worker for lower-level Fingerprint Specialists; and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:
Fingerprint Specialist III employees are assigned complex cases of latent fingerprint evaluation, comparison, and identification which require an advanced level of knowledge, technical skill, proficiency, and experience in both the identification of persons and in testimony in high profile cases. Duties are performed under the administrative supervision of the Section supervisor.

While Fingerprint Specialist II employees also examine and identify latent fingerprints and perform associated functions, their cases are at the full-performance level.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:
Searches and compares latent prints with fingerprints/palm prints of known suspects for the purpose of identification using manual and automated (when applicable) fingerprint identification technology;
Compares complex, unidentified latent fingerprints to a computer-generated list of known persons with previous criminal histories, utilizing automated fingerprint identification technology with interfaces to the Virginia State Police Automated Fingerprint Identification System (VAFIS) and the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Automated Fingerprint Identification System (DCAFIS);
Coordinates and/or conducts in-house job-related training for peers;
Trains entry-level Fingerprint Specialist in skills consistent with their position classification level, and monitors and documents the employees development;
Provides guidance, mentoring, and assistance to employees of lesser skill and experience;
Assists the section supervisor through the performance of long- and short-term operational and administrative projects/tasks in support of the mission;
Classifies ten-print fingerprint cards, utilizing the Henry and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) classification methods;
Enters fingerprints from ten-print cards into the automated files;
Examines and evaluates latent fingerprint evidence, entering it into the manual file or rejecting it due to poor quality;

Receives, evaluates and corrects errors in the processing of Central Criminal Records Exchange (CCRE) arrest documents and associated ten-print cards;

Photographs, develops, and prints black-and-white photo enlargements of identified latent prints and comparative ten-prints;

Prepares detailed charts, exhibits, and documents of fingerprint evidence for trial, and testifies in court as an expert in the field of fingerprint and palm print identification;

Performs AFIS computer backup and routine computer maintenance, and identifies and resolves minor malfunctions;

Gives court testimony in high profile and capital crime cases;

Provides limited oversight of employees in the absence of supervisory authority.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of training methods, supplemented by experience in the training of personnel in fingerprint identification skills and duties;

Thorough knowledge of the Henry and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) methods of fingerprint identification;

Thorough knowledge of the rules of evidence involving fingerprint identification and legal procedures common to court cases;

Knowledge of the methods, techniques, and equipment used to take, develop and enlarge photographs;

Ability to prioritize and delegate work, and to manage a caseload efficiently under minimal supervision;

Ability to accurately classify, search, and identify complex fingerprints;

Ability to operate, analyze data from, and troubleshoot an automated fingerprint identification system;

Ability to summarize facts and examination results clearly, concisely, and objectively, both orally and in writing.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the following:

High school graduation or a G.E.D. issued by a state department of education; PLUS

Successful completion of formal training or courses in basic fingerprint identification, advanced latent fingerprint identification, and administrative advanced fingerprint identification conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or equivalent resource; PLUS

Eight years of experience in fingerprint identification, including six years of experience identifying latent prints.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

None.

REVISED:	June 5, 2000
ESTABLISHED:	December 7, 1998